

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0015] as follows:

[0015] The device 100 includes an evacuated collection container 10 comprised of (1) a tube 12 having an open end 14 and a closed end 16; a closure (e.g., stopper) 18 in the open end of the tube 12, and a predetermined level of vacuum (not shown) inside the container 10. It is preferred that the tube 12 is made of a transparent material such as glass or plastic for better visibility. It is also preferred that the tube 12 has an interior surface that is sterile and resists adherence to the cells 20 (not shown) during collection, storage, and analysis. The closure 18 is preferably puncturable by a needle and resealable allowing easy transfer of the cells 20 (e.g., the cells 20 from its host to the container 10 and from the container 10 to another substrate if desired). It is also preferred that the closure 18 and the tube 12 together form a seal capable of maintaining a pressure differential between atmospheric pressure and a pressure less than atmospheric pressure within the tube ~~18~~ 12.